THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various speakers discussed the applicability of Laser and Ultrasonic aspirator with regard to their use in Neurosurgery. Most of the speakers agreed that Laser and Ultrasonic aspirater have a great role to play Most of the tumors especially vascular tumors can be removed with ease. It is of particular use in basal meningiomas, acoustic neuroma, thalamic tumours, brainstem and spinal cord tumors. Use of these high-tech equipments reduces the blood required during surgery, increases the safety margin by decreasing the need for manipulation within the brain and spinal cord and tumour in the depth can be removed more safely.

Consensus of opinion was that this facility must be provided in institutions concerned with postgraduate training (Super speciality training).

(c) The Government of India have not yet received the recommendations of the three-day International Workshop on laser Neurological Surgery.

Pondicherry Airport

1182. SHRI M KADHARSHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision regarding the construction of a new airport at Pondicherry; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) adn (b) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to construct STOL airport at Pondicherry for Vayudoot operations. A site at Karuvadikuppam has also been selected

International Airport at Madras

1183. SHRI M KADHARSHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 260 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th November, 1986 and state :

(a) the progress made in regard to construction of International Airport at Madras;

(b) what is the amount allocated for the purpose and the amount spent so far;

(c) by when it will be ready; and

(d) the reason if any, for its slow implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) 56% of the construction work on the New International Terminal complex at Madras Airport has been completed so far.

(b) The project is estimated to cost Rs. 17 49 Crores. An expenditure of Rs 5 07 crores has been incurred upto 31-10-1987. A provision of Rs. 5 00 crores and Rs. 8 00 crores has been made for the project in the Revised Estimate 87-88 and Budget Estimate 88-89 respectively.

(c) The International complex is expected to be ready by 31-3 1989

(d) The work is progressing according to schedule.

Outmoded urine test for sugar

1184 SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the news item which appeared in the Times of India dated 24th October, 1987 concerning a Drug Firms bait to doctors in order to promote a new production item for ready testing of sugar in urine of diabetes which is outmoded and difficult to be performed by General practitioners; and

(b) if so, what corrective measures have been taken/proposed to be taken under Consumers Protection Act or Medical ethics of any other powers vested with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The news item which appeared in the Times of India